To what extent do the arts help us to see the world with new eyes?

The way we view the world is affected by other areas of knowledge, an example is the natural sciences. Through the sciences we are able to understand the world in which we live and we see it with new eyes. The Arts can be eye-opening and help us to see things differently as well, but sometimes that isn’t enough. For some people the arts only reinforce thoughts that they’ve already been having. They can relate to pieces of art representing pain and loss, but these pieces may not help them to see the world with new eyes.

Keeping this in mind we can say that finding a piece of art to relate to *is* eye-opening, because it helps us realize that there are people just like us out there. We use art as a way of understanding other people and understanding people is how we make our way in the world. Difficult experiences can not easily be explained through words; the pain of a war, the memory of a natural disaster, these things can be documented using art. Because of these, our perception of the world changes, we become more empathetic towards others; we are more attentive in our everyday lives.

Is Art the Language of Emotion?

Emotion is difficult to define as well as difficult to explain. When something is complicated and hard to understand, we turn to different outlets, in order to make sense of them, for the sake of ourselves as well as for others. In the case of emotion, when it becomes overwhelming we turn to art as an outlet. We can tell by colour choice how someone feels, when we see harsh colours such us red, we associate them with anger. We seek compassion from others and peace within ourselves, this isn’t easy to find, especially when words can only say so much. So we paint our emotions on a canvas and leave it to the audience to interpret. Art not only portrays the emotion of others, it makes a connection with our emotions as well.

We can argue to say that our actions are a direct reflection of our emotions; the way we behave can represent how we feel, therefore action is the language of emotion. When someone fights or argues, we can tell that they are angry; their actions have managed to tell us how they feel. We can conclude by saying that art is not emotion’s sole language, because emotion is bilingual.

References: <http://studysavers.wordpress.com/2010/10/26/the-arts/>